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Drawing Line on Cuba Right But Tardy Position for U.S.

The quarantine on shipping into Cuba, and the President's seven-point statement of Monday evening, are the correct but tardy policies for America.

The line has been drawn beyond which the Soviet and their Cuban puppets may not go without endangering the present uneasy situation.

The Central Intelligence Agency and the Administration of the present and of the past knew Castro's leanings. They have known of the Russian infiltration. They have known that the movement within Cuba, and the movement from without Cuba, were inimical to the United States.

American support to the better interests of the Cuban people, years back, and months back, would have helped avert the buildup which we so latently face up to now.

The President's stand will be accepted by most Americans as the only stand we can take.

But it should have been taken earlier.

The American people have been ahead of the administration, and have been deeply concerned.

Sen. Milton Young, of North Dakota, Republican, has been informing the public for at least six weeks, that missiles were being brought into Cuba, and repeated it again to this publisher today in the Times-Record office.

Why the holdup on the position and the drawing of the line?

No one wants a major or minor eruption in any part of the world. But we do know we must call a halt to any further strengthening of the nuclear elements off our shores—Havana is no more distant from Key West, Florida, than Valley City from Wahpeton. (Where the STC Vikings invade in hopes of a football co-tide this Thursday evening!)

The Times-Record hopes there is no more than a bluster and counter-sparring, in this new Cuban aspect to the hot-cold Cold War.

We do hope, also, that the American government will begin to believe the information it has from its own agencies, its Central Intelligence Agency, its undercover people of the Armed Forces, and begin to believe the intelligence of even the tourist or American in business abroad.

Hitler told in "Mein Kampf" what he intended—Trotsky, Stalin, and now Khrushchev with his "We'll bury you" statement, have told Americans and the world their aims of obliterating our free society.

The trite old, old statement of "To be forewarned is to be forearmed," is good—only to the extent that we really forearm ourselves.

We are glad that the President finally made the American position clear—we are sorry he did not move on it earlier.

EDWARD C. COCHRANE

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